

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-08 IO-13 TRSE-00 OMB-01

CU-04 /110 W

-----251332Z 107598 /47

R 251203Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9240

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO

AMEMBASSY BISSAU

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 1027

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR EAID, XY FR GB

SUBJECT: GABONESE COMMENTS ON DAKAR FRANCOPHONE SUMMIT

REF: STATE 083778

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1. REPLYING TO QUESTIONS AT AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 22, PRESIDENT BONGO PRAISED MOROCCO AND FRANCE FOR THEIR AID TO ZAIRE BUT CRITICIZED LATTER FOR CERTAIN ASPECTS OF ITS AID POLICY IN AFRICA. HIS OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF FRANCOPHONE SUMMIT WAS POSITIVE, AND WAS REFLECTED IN LOCAL PRESS COMMENT ABOUT "MUTUAL ENRICHMENT" AND REASSURANCE" IN FRENCH RELATIONS WITH AFRICAN STATES.

2. BONGO DENIED FLATLY THAT "SECURITY" WAS FORMAL TOPIC OF DISCUSSION AT CONFERENCE, BUT IMPLIED THAT IT HAD BEEN SUBJECT OF EXTENSIVE CORRIDOR CONVERSATION. PRAISE FOR GISCARD AND HASSAN WAS ACCOMPAINED BY CRITICISM OF USSR FOR ITS USE OF AFRICA AS "PROVING GROUND" AND ITS EFFORTS TO INTRODUCE ALIEN IDEOLOGIES

INTO CONTINENT.

3. ON ECONOMIC FRONT, WHICH WAS PRINCIPAL PREOCCUPATION OF CONFERENCE, PRESIDENT STRESSED DESIRE OF AFRICAN PARTICIPANTS IN CONFERENCE FOR HIGHER LEVELS OF FRENCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND EFFORTS TO GET FRANCO AFRICAN SOLIDARITY FUND UNDERWAY. HE NOTED THAT HE HAD URGED GISCARD TO TAKE ACTION TO FORCE RETURN TO GABON OF GABONESE STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS STAYING OVERLONG IN FRANCE, AND ADDED THAT GISCARD HAD PROMISED GOF HELP ON THIS QUESTION.

4. IN PRESS INTERVIEW PRIOR TO LEAVING DAKAR, BONGO TOUCHED ON ESSENTIALLY SIMILAR THEMES. HE DID, HOWEVER, ADD TART COMMENT THAT CUBANS SHOULD "GO HOME AND CUT THEIR SUGAR CANE," TYING THEM SPECIFICALLY TO SOVIET EFFORTS TO EXTEND INFLUENCE IN AFRICA. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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